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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/891,584	06/26/2001	Lorin Evan Ullmann	AUS920010284-US1	2109

7590 11/16/2005
IBM CORPORATION
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUSTIN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/891,584

Applicant(s)

ULLMANN ET AL

Examiner

Dustin Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10-15 and 17-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10-15 and 17-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-7, 10-15 and 17-25 are presented for examination.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 08/29/2005 has been entered.

Specification

3. Examiner requests Applicants to update status of co-pending applications as mentioned in specification pages 2 and 3.
4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: spelling error in the specification [i.e. "certaim" page 4, lines 12].

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-7, 10-15 and 17-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dev et al. [US Patent No 5,504,921], in view of Chinta et al. [US Patent No 6,879,995].

7. As per claim 1, Dev discloses the invention substantially as claimed including a method for providing variable frequency logging of activities in a distributed computing system comprising a plurality of computing locations having at least one message logger for monitoring messages and for generating message logger output and a plurality of selectively-enabled trace loggers capable of logging system activities from respective computing locations comprising the steps of:

detecting an event trigger [i.e. detect common problems] [col 1, lines 55-57]
comprising a message level error indicative of an error at a computing location based on message logger output [i.e. generating an alarm condition] [col 2, lines 60-63; and col 8, lines 1-10];

determining the computing location at which said error occurred [i.e. traverse location and topology views to obtain alarm information] [col 13, lines 1-15; and col 14, lines 41-59];

responsive to the event trigger and the determined computer location, activating a temporary logging function starting logging by a respective selectively-enabled trace logger for

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logging system activities for at least said one computing location at which said error occurred so that a source of said error can be determined [i.e. inference handlers initiate by triggers] [col 6, lines 10-28; and col 15, lines 28-38];

logging system activities be the selectively-enabled trace logger [i.e. event log, statistic log, alarm log] [Figure 10; and col 14, lines 41-59].

Dev does not specifically disclose

terminating logging of system activities based on detection of a stop event by selectively disabling the selectively-enabled trace logger.

Chinta discloses terminating logging of system activities based on detection of a stop event by selectively disabling the selectively-enabled trace logger [i.e. temporary disabling the event log] [col 31, lines 39-55].

It would have been obvious to a person skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Dev and Chinta because Chinta's teaching of terminating logging would allow to manage storage space and prevent logging of unnecessary data.

8. As per claim 2, Dev discloses implementing filtering of said logging of system activities [col 7, lines 36-47].

9. As per claim 3, Dev discloses analyzing filtering of system activities to determine corrective action [i.e. perform specified action] [col 10, lines 7-13].

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10. As per claim 4, Dev discloses altering the amount of logging done for system activities [i.e. select severity of event to be displayed] [col 7, lines 49-53].

11. As per claim 5, Dev discloses adjusting the frequency at which logging is done at an affected location [col 6, lines 51-col 7, lines 2].

12. As per claim 6, Dev discloses determining at least one subsystem affected by the event and wherein said activating comprises starting logging at said at least one affected subsystem [i.e. network device having fault is displayed] [Figure 10; and col 14, lines 41-59].

13. As per claim 7, Dev discloses tracing from a location at which said event was detected to identify at least one subsystem affected by said event and starting logging at said at least one affected system [i.e. traverse views to obtain information] [col 13, lines 1-27; and col 14, lines 14-26].

14. As per claim 10, Dev discloses the step of accessing at least one configuration database for predefined temporary logging information [16, Figure 1; and col 3, lines 43-47].

15. As per claim 11, Dev discloses accessing at least one configuration database to obtain predefined temporary logging information for said subsystem [Figure 1; and col 7, lines 36-47 and lines 56-67].

16. As per claims 12 and 13, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1-3.

17. As per claim 14, Dev does not specifically disclose a timer for terminating logging after a preset time period. Chinta discloses a timer for terminating logging after a preset time period [col 29, lines 26-42; and col 31; lines 44-54]. It would have been obvious to a person skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Dev and Chinta because Chinta's teaching would allow to control the amount of logging information in a timely manner.

18. As per claim 15, Chinta discloses a component for receiving user input of stop notification [Figure 20; and col 37, lines 13-22].

19. As per claims 17-19, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 6 and 7.

20. As per claim 20, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 5.

21. As per claim 21, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 1.

22. As per claim 22, Chinta discloses gradually adjusting said logging [i.e. adjust the event logging criteria] [col9, lines 47-50].

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23. As per claim 23, Dev discloses dynamically setting a logging and tracing configuration for the distributed computing system based on said detected event [i.e. models represent the configuration and status of the network on a dynamic status] [col 6, lines 46-48; and col 7, lines 2-8].

24. As per claim 24, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 3.

25. As per claim 25, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 23.

26. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7, 10-15 and 17-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

27. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire **3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days** from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application (see 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02, 710.02(b)).

Conclusion

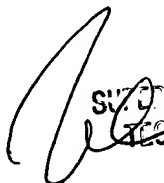
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dustin Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3971. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m..

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3970.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dustin Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2154

 JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISOR PATENT EXAMINER
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